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Special Assistant, Research and Reports

6 August 1954

THRU : Chief, Economic Research Area

Chief, Services Division

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Status of [REDACTED] Project, The Economics of Eastern Europe [REDACTED] Report)

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1. With the exception of the final two chapters, the [REDACTED] report is complete in final form. The remaining chapters will be completed and the complete work published in ditto in September. Enough copies to meet Agency requirements will be furnished by [REDACTED] in this form. The study will not be printed because of plans being made to publish it as a book. 25X1A5a1

2. The report (with the exception of the final two chapters) has been examined and reviewed during a recent trip to [REDACTED] by members of D/S. The study represents a very competent research job and contains information and analysis of value to many components of ORR. 25X1A5a1

3. The original objectives of ORR in asking for the project were:

a. To provide information and analysis about economic integration of the Soviet Bloc.

b. To provide information and analysis concerning the character and magnitude of economic growth in the European Satellites.

c. To provide analytical and research techniques for research and analysis of the various economic sectors of Soviet Bloc countries.

4. The study provides information about the industrial and the agricultural base of various Eastern European countries, as well as information concerning the character and magnitude of trade and finance and various service industries. Thus, a great deal of necessary background material is available for use in problems concerning objectives (a) and (b) above. As for objective (c), the paper provides the industrial and agricultural bases necessary for such studies as well as labor force information needed for analysis of sectoral growth. The research techniques employed are not particularly unique, being mostly the analysis of trends based on historical time series and economic plans.

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5. The chief limitation of the study is that it does not contain a full-blown study of East Germany. Although East Germany is included in the analysis in part, it has not received the intensive treatment which was accorded some of the other Satellites. Yugoslavia is included in the study, but is of less interest than Bloc countries.

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RE/S/TF:WSM:jmc

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